

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for monitoring domain name registrations, said method comprising:

(a) receiving a request to monitor a name, wherein the request to monitor is to identify at least one domain name that is similar to the name to be monitored and wherein the at least one similar domain name matches at least one domain variation of the name to be monitored;

(b) determining a domain space about the name to be monitored, the domain space including the at least one domain variation of the name to be monitored;

(c) searching a database of domain name registrations to identify one or more registrations of domain names that match the at least one variation of the name being monitored; ~~and~~

(d) notifying the requestor of the identified one or more registrations of domain names that have been identified by said searching (c) as matching the at least one variation of the name being monitored; and

(e) sending warning messages to one or more registrants, other than the requestor, of the identified one or more registrations indicating that the identified one or more registrations are substantially similar to the name being monitored, wherein the warning message sent to each of the one or more registrants includes a notice indicating that the corresponding registrant has registered an offending registration

~~wherein subsequent to said receiving (a) of the request to monitor the name, said searching (c) and said notifying (d) are periodically automatically performed.~~

2. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said notifying (d) is performed by electronic mail.
3. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein the name pertains to a domain name.
4. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said searching (b) searches a plurality of databases of domain name registrations.
5. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein the name to be monitored is an identified string of characters.
6. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 5, wherein said searching (c) identifies those domain name registrations that are for domain names that include at least the identified string of characters.
7. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said searching (c) searches recent registrations.
8. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said notifying (d) comprises:
 - (d1) producing a notification message pertaining to the identified one or more registrations; and
 - (d2) forwarding the notification message to the requestor.

9. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 8, wherein the notification message includes at least registrant, date of registration and contact information for each of the identified registrations.

10. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said receiving (a) comprises receiving monitoring request data from a requestor, the monitoring request data being provided through interaction with a web site accessible via the Internet.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for monitoring domain name registrations, said method comprising:

- (a) receiving a request to monitor a name on behalf of a requestor;
- (b) searching a database of domain name registrations to identify one or more registrations of domain names that match the name being monitored;
- (c) notifying the requestor of the identified one or more registrations; and
- (d) sending warning messages to one or more registrants, other than the requestor, of the identified one or more registrations indicating that the identified one or more registrations match ~~are substantially similar to~~ the name being monitored, wherein the warning message sent to each of the one or more registrants includes a notice indicating that the corresponding registrant has registered an offending registration.

12. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 11, wherein said sending (d) of the warning messages is done automatically for the requestor or on specific request by the requestor.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for monitoring domain name registrations, said method comprising:

(a) registering a name to be monitored for a requestor, wherein the name is monitored to identify one or more domain names that are substantially similar to the name to be monitored;

(b) searching at one or more registration databases to identify one or more registrations of domain names that are similar to that of the name to be monitored, wherein the searching for the one or more registrations of domain names operates to monitor domain name registrations to identify one or more domain name registrations that are substantially similar to the name to be monitored; and

(c) notifying the requestor of the identified one or more registrations; and

(d) sending warning messages to one or more registrants, other than the requestor, of the identified one or more registrations indicating that the identified one or more registrations are substantially similar to the name being monitored, wherein the warning message sent to each of the one or more registrants includes a notice indicating that the corresponding registrant has registered an offending registration,

wherein subsequent to said registering (a) of the name to be monitored, said searching (b) and said notifying (c) are periodically automatically performed, and

wherein said searching (b) identifies one or more registrations of domain names that are variants of the name to be monitored.

14. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein said notifying (c) is performed by electronic mail.

15. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein the one or more registration databases are associated with one or more registrars.

16. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein the name pertains to a domain name.

17. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein the name to be monitored is an identified string of characters.

18. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 17, wherein said searching (b) identifies those registrations that are for domain names that include at least the identified string of characters.

19. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein said searching (b) searches recent registrations.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for monitoring domain name registrations, said method comprising:

(a) registering a name to be monitored for a requestor, wherein the name is monitored to identify one or more domain names that are similar to the name to be monitored;

(b) searching the one or more registration databases to identify the one or more registrations of domain names that are similar to that of the name to be monitored, wherein the searching for the one or more registrations of domain names operates to monitor domain name registrations to identify one or more domain name registrations that are similar to the name to be monitored; ~~and~~

(c) notifying the requestor of the identified one or more registrations; and

(d) sending warning messages to one or more registrants, other than the requestor, of the identified one or more registrations indicating that the identified one or more registrations are similar to the name being monitored, wherein the warning message sent to each of the one or more registrants includes a notice indicating that the corresponding registrant has registered an offending registration,

~~wherein subsequent to said registering (a) of the name to be monitored, said searching (b) and said notifying (c) are periodically automatically performed,~~

wherein the name to be monitored is a character string, and

wherein the identified one or more registrations of domain names that are similar to the that of the name are those that include the character string as well as at least one additional character not in the character string.

21. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein said notifying (c) comprises:

(c1) producing a notification message pertaining to the identified one or more registrations; and

(c2) forwarding the notification message to the requestor.

22. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 21, wherein the notification message includes at least registrant, date of registration and contact information for each of the identified one or more registrations.

23. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein said registering (a) comprises receiving registration data from the requestor, the registration data being provided through interaction with a web site accessible via the Internet.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13 [[24]], wherein said sending (d) of the warning messages is done automatically for the requestor or on specific request by the requestor.

26. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein said method further comprises:

(d) monitoring activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

27. (Original) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 26, wherein said method further comprises:

(e) informing the requestor of the activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Cancelled).

31. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 11, wherein said receiving (a) comprises receiving monitoring request data from a requestor, the monitoring request data being provided through interaction with a web site accessible via the Internet.

32. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 31, wherein the name to be monitored is an identified string of characters together with at least one wildcard character, and

wherein said searching (b) is periodically automatically performed and serves to identify those domain name registrations that are for domain names that include the identified string of characters as well as satisfy the at least one wildcard character.

33. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 31, wherein said method further comprises:

(d) monitoring activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations; and

(e) informing the requestor of the activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~said method further comprises:~~ subsequent to said receiving (a) of the request to monitor the name, said searching (c), said notifying (d) and said (e) sending are periodically automatically performed a warning message to at least one registrant of the identified one or more registrations.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises:

(f) ~~[[(e)]]~~ monitoring activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 35, wherein said method further comprises:

(g) ~~[[(e)]]~~ informing the requestor of the activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

37. (Cancelled),

38. (New) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 13, wherein subsequent to said registering (a) of the name to be monitored, said searching (b) and said notifying (c) are periodically automatically performed.

39. (New) A computer-implemented method as recited in claim 20, wherein subsequent to said registering (a) of the name to be monitored, said searching (b) and said notifying (c) are periodically automatically performed.

40. (New) A domain monitoring system for monitoring domain name registrations, said domain monitoring system comprising:

a domain monitoring server, said domain monitoring server being configured to: receive a request to monitor a name on behalf of a requestor; search a database of domain name registrations to identify one or more registrations of domain names that match the name being monitored; notify the requestor of the identified one or more registrations; and send warning messages to one or more registrants, other than the requestor, of the identified one or more registrations indicating that the identified one or more registrations match the name being monitored, wherein the warning message sent to each of the one or more registrants includes a notice indicating that the corresponding registrant has registered an offending registration.

41. (New) A domain monitoring system as recited in claim 40, wherein said domain monitoring system comprises:

a data storage device configured to store information regarding one or more names to be monitored.

42. (New) A computer readable medium storing at least computer program code for monitoring domain name registrations, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for registering a name to be monitored for a requestor, wherein the name is monitored to identify one or more domain names that are substantially similar to the name to be monitored;

computer program code for searching at one or more registration databases to identify one or more registrations of domain names that are similar to that of the name

to be monitored, wherein the searching for the one or more registrations of domain names operates to monitor domain name registrations to identify one or more domain name registrations that are substantially similar to the name to be monitored; and

computer program code for notifying the requestor of the identified one or more registrations; and

computer program code for sending a warning message to one or more registrants, other than the requestor, of the identified one or more registrations indicating that the identified one or more registrations are substantially similar to the name being monitored, wherein the warning message sent to each of the one or more registrants includes a notice indicating that the corresponding registrant has registered an offending registration,

43. (New) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 42, wherein said computer readable medium further comprises:

computer program code for monitoring activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

44. (New) computer readable medium as recited in claim 43, wherein said computer readable medium further comprises:

computer program code for informing the requestor of the activation of a website at the domain names of the identified one or more registrations.

45. (New) computer readable medium as recited in claim 42, wherein said computer program code for searching identifies one or more registrations of domain names that are variants of the name to be monitored.

46. (New) computer readable medium as recited in claim 42, wherein said computer program code for notifying notifies the requestor by electronic mail.

47. (New) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 42, wherein said computer program code for sending the warning message electrically transmits the warning message via electronic mail.

48. (New) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 47, wherein said computer program code for sending of the warning message electronically transmits the warning message only after specifically approved for distribution by the requestor.

49. (New) A computer readable medium as recited in claim 42, wherein said computer program code for registering receives registration data provided by the requestor, the registration data being provided through interaction with a web site accessible via the Internet.